# Apply for health care benefits today!

- Complete an application so VA can determine your eligibility to register for certain health care benefits and/or enroll in VA health care:
  - Toll-free at 877-222-VETS (8387), Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET.
  - Online at www.choose.va.gov/health/oth-enrollment
  - Submit application for Health Benefits
  - (VA Form 10-10EZ) to the nearest VA medical facility.
  - Mail the completed application to the address on the form.
  - You may get assistance completing your application from a Veterans Service Organization (VSO).
- 2. If available, please provide us a copy of your military service records, such as your DD-214.
- 3. VA health care eligibility staff will send the Eligibility Determination for Character of Discharge Request (VA Form 20-0986) to a VA regional office for processing. You will be notified in writing of the decision.
- You may qualify for certain VA health care benefits while your application is pending.

#### Start your application today.

www.choose.va.gov/health/oth-enrollment





#### What benefits am I eligible for?

Veterans with OTH discharges may be eligible for certain health care benefits without being required to enroll in VA health care, such as:

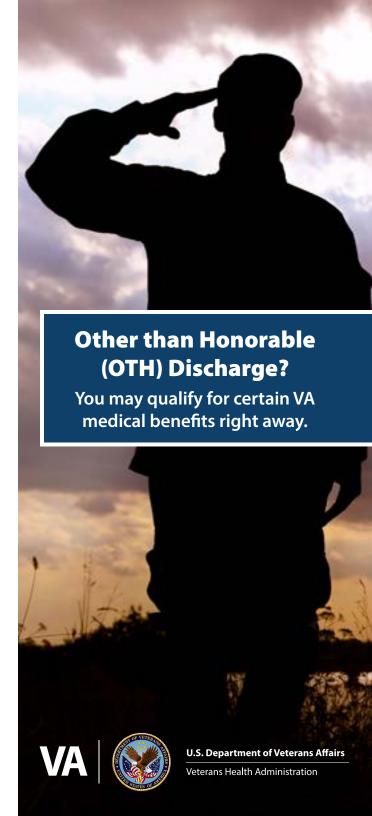
- Treatment for sexual assault or harassment experienced while in the military.
- Mental and behavioral health care.
- Counseling services at a VA Vet Center.
- Emergent suicide care.

Complete an application to determine your eligibility to register for and receive such services right away.

We also encourage you to apply to enroll in VA health care for access to additional treatment and services. Apply to register or enroll and see how we can assist you today.

## VA is ready to help you. Apply now.

- 1. Apply for VA health care (see inside for details).
- 2. While the VA reviews your application, VA may provide immediate treatment for certain health conditions, including:
  - A VA-rated service-connected disability.
  - Any emergency condition, including mental health issues if you're in distress or crisis.



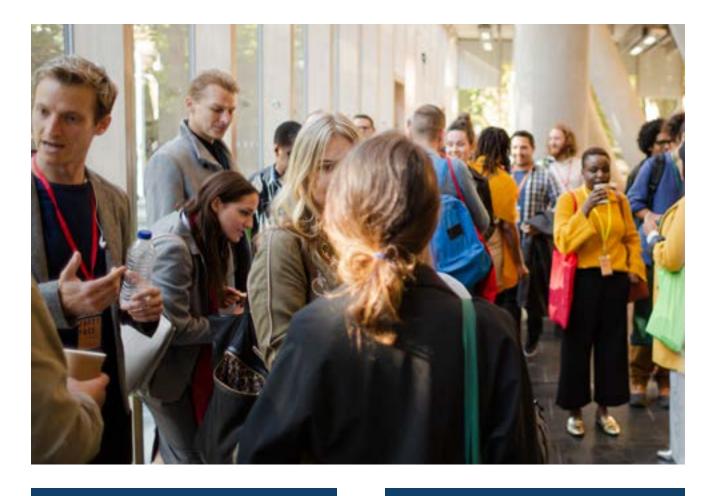
## What if I want to upgrade my discharge?

You might consider upgrading your discharge at the same time you register or apply for VA health care. All branches of the military consider you to have a strong case for a discharge upgrade if you can show your discharge was connected to any of these categories:

- Mental health conditions, including posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Traumatic brain injury (TBI)
- Sexual assault or harassment during military service (at VA, we refer to this as military sexual trauma or MST)
- Sexual orientation (including under the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy)

Visit www.va.gov/discharge-upgrade-instructions to get customized step-by-step instructions to apply for a discharge upgrade or correction.





#### Get connected with mental health care.

To access VA mental health services right away:

- Call us at 877-222-VETS (8387).
- Call or walk into any VA medical center. Find the nearest one at www.va.gov/find-locations.
- Call or walk into any Vet Center.
   Find the one nearest you at www.va.gov/find-locations.

## In crisis now? Confidential support, 24/7

- Dial 1-800-273-8255, press 1
- Text to 83825
- Chat at <u>www.VeteransCrisisLine.net</u>

